

We Claim:—

[Claim 1] An apparatus for sorting and/or mating members of a plurality of members, the mated members forming a matched set, wherein said apparatus is attached to a plurality of electrically operable indicator devices, and a first indicator device can be caused to change mode at a first instant and at least a second indicator device can be caused to change mode at a second instant.

[Claim 2] The Apparatus of Claim 1, wherein a third electrically operable indicator device that can be caused to change mode at a third instant is attached to said Apparatus.

[Claim 3] The Apparatus of one at least of Claim 1, 2, wherein one at least indicator devices include an illuminable device that can be caused to emit light of at least a first color.

[Claim 4] The Apparatus of one at least of Claims 1, 2, 3, wherein said first illuminable device can be caused to change illumination mode prior to the second instant.

[Claim 5] The Apparatus of one at least of Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, wherein said mode change includes one at least of a) light source changing from off to on; b) light source changing from on to off; c) light source changing from one at least first colors to one at least second colors; d) light source changing from a first intensity to a second intensity; e) light source changing from pulsing at a first frequency to a second frequency.

[Claim 6] The Apparatus of one at least of Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, wherein a first indicator device is associated with pictorial information pertaining to a first object and said second indicator device is associated with pictorial information pertaining to a second object.

[Claim 7] The Apparatus of one at least of Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, wherein said first indicator device is associated with a first part of pictorial information pertaining to a first part of an object and said second indicator device is associated with pictorial information pertaining to second part of said object.

[Claim 8] The Apparatus of one at least of Claims 2 through 7, wherein the mode change of one at least indicator devices is associated with the reading of information from one at least socks.

[Claim 9] The Apparatus of Claim 8, wherein said reading is by an electrically operable device.

[Claim 10] The Apparatus of one at least of Claims 1 through 11, wherein said mating members comprise at least one pair of socks.

[Claim 11] The Apparatus of Claim 10, wherein a first sock is associated with said Apparatus at a first instant and a second sock is associated with said Apparatus at a second instant.

[Claim 12] The Apparatus of claim 11, wherein said first and second socks are a matched set.

[Claim 13] The Apparatus of Claim 11, wherein said first sock is a first member of a first matchable set and said second sock is a first member of a second matchable set.

[Claim 14] The Apparatus of Claim 13, wherein a third sock is associated with said Apparatus at a third instant.

[Claim 15] The Apparatus of Claim 14, wherein said third sock is a second member of said first or second matchable set.

[Claim 16] The Apparatus of Claim 12, wherein said first and second socks are associated with a first indicator device.

[Claim 17] The Apparatus of Claim 12, wherein said first sock is associated with a first indicator device and said second sock is associated with a second indicator device.

[Claim 18] The Apparatus of one at least of Claims 14, 15, wherein said first sock is associated with a first indicator device and said second sock is associated with a second indicator device and said third sock is associated with a third indicator device.

[Claim 19] The Apparatus of one at least of Claims 14, 15, wherein said first and third sock are associated with a first indicator device and said second sock is associated with a second indicator device.

[Claim 20] The Apparatus of one at least of Claims 1 through 19, wherein one at least indicator devices are coupled to an electrically operable device comprising a computer and/or computer readable media and/or information content stored on computer readable media.

[Claim 21] The Apparatus of Claim 20, wherein said coupling includes wired means.

[Claim 22] The Apparatus of Claim 20, wherein said coupling includes wireless means.

[Claim 23] The electrically operable device of Claims 20, 21, 22, wherein said electrical device comprises a plurality of electrically operable devices.

[Claim 24] The electrically operable device of Claim 23, wherein one at least of said plurality of electrically operable devices is associated with a first enclosure.

[Claim 25] The electrically operable device of Claim 24, wherein one at least of said plurality of electrically operable devices is associated with a second enclosure.

[Claim 26] The Apparatus of Claims 20 through 25, wherein part at least of said electrically operable device is attached to said Apparatus.

[Claim 27] The Apparatus of Claim 26, wherein said attachment includes a flexible lead.

[Claim 28] The Apparatus of Claims 20 through 24, wherein a first electrically operable device is coupled to a second electrically operable device attached to said Apparatus.

[Claim 29] The electrically operable devices of Claim 28, wherein said coupling is wireless.

[Claim 30] The wireless coupling of Claim 29, comprising one at least of radiofrequency, infrared.

[Claim 31] The radiofrequency of Claim 30, wherein said radiofrequency comprises one at least of Zigbee, Bluetooth, 802.11.

[Claim 32] The Apparatus of one at least of Claims 26 through 31 wherein one at least said electrically operable device is coupled to one at least of:-

- a) electrically operable display;
- b) electrically operable information input means;
- c) electrically operable device for reading and/or writing to an RFID transponder;
- d) electrically operable device for reading and/or writing to an electronic device, referenced as a "Onewire device", that combines:-
 - i) electrical power for said device, ii) data information and iii) control information on single electrical conductor;
- e) electrically operable device able to acquire an image and convert said image to electrically accessible information pertaining to said image;
- f) electrically operable device able to acquire sound and convert said sound to electrically accessible information pertaining to said sound;
- g) electrically operable device to convert electrically accessible sound information to sound
- h) electrically operable device to receive and/or send information using radiofrequency;
- i) electrically operable device to receive and/or send information using infrared;
- j) electrically operable device to send and/or receive information using visible light;
- k) electrically operable device to send and/or receive information using electromagnetic radiation;
- l) electrically operable device to acquire pressure information;
- m) electrically operable device to acquire movement information, said movement pertaining to one at least objects and/or persons.

[Claim 33] The electrically operable device of Claim 32, wherein said device acquires information coupled to one at least socks.

[Claim 34] The device of Claim 33, wherein said information includes one at least indicia coupled to one at least socks.

[Claim 35] The device of Claim 34, wherein said indicia include one at least shapes and/or colours.

[Claim 36] The indicia of Claim 35, wherein said indicia are printed and/or woven into said sock prior to supply to a consumer.

[Claim 37] The indicia of Claim 36, wherein said indicia are on a contrasting background.

[Claim 38] The background of Claim 37, wherein said background colour is different to the sock colour(s).

[Claim 39] The background colour of Claim 38, wherein said background is woven into and/or printed onto the sock prior to supply to a consumer.

[Claim 40] The indicia of Claim 34, 35, wherein said indicia is attachable to said sock.

[Claim 41] The information of Claims 34 through 40, wherein said information is entered into said electrically operable device manually.

[Claim 42] The information of Claims 34 through 40, wherein said information is machine read.

[Claim 43] The information of Claim 42, wherein said machine read includes use of a digital camera.

[Claim 44] The device of Claim 33, wherein, said information includes digital content stored in an integrated circuit.

[Claim 45] The integrated circuit of Claim 44 comprising an RFID transponder and/or a Onewire device.

[Claim 46] The method of providing a sock with a sock ID suitable for use with one at least devices of one at least of Claims 1 through 45

[Claim 47] A sock ID device essentially as described in the specification.

[Claim 48] An electrically operable device that facilitates usage of the apparatus described in one at least of Claims 1 through 47.

[Claim 49] A system for sorting and/or mating members of a plurality of members, the mated members forming a matched set, wherein said system comprises information coupled to each member of one at least matched sets, and information coupled to one at least apparatus used to store a plurality of said members during said sorting and/or mating.

[Claim 50] The apparatus of one at least of claims 1 through 49, wherein said apparatus includes an item of Manchester.

[Claim 51] The item of Manchester of Claim 50, comprising one at least of bed sheet, doona-cover, blanket, bedspread.

[Claim 52] An item of Manchester attached to a plurality of electrically operable indicator devices, wherein a first indicator device can be caused to change mode at a first instant and at least a second indicator device can be caused to change mode at a second instant.

[Claim 53] The Manchester of one at least of Claims 52, wherein a first indicator device is associated with pictorial information pertaining to a first object and said second indicator device is associated with pictorial information pertaining to a second object.

[Claim 54] The Manchester of one at least of Claims 52, wherein said first indicator device is associated with a first part of an object and said second indicator device is associated with a second part of said object.

[Claim 55] The Manchester of one at least of Claims 52 through 54, wherein the mode change of one at least indicator devices is associated with the reading of information from one at least socks.

[Claim 56] The Manchester of Claims 51 through 55 wherein one at least said electrically operable indicators are coupled to one at least of:-

- a) electrically operable display;
- b) electrically operable information input means;
- c) electrically operable device for reading and/or writing to an RFID transponder;
- d) electrically operable device for reading and/or writing to an electronic device, referenced as a "Onewire device", that combines:-
 - i) electrical power for said device, ii) data information and iii) control information on single electrical conductor;
- e) electrically operable device able to acquire an image and convert said image to electrically accessible information pertaining to said image;
- f) electrically operable device able to acquire sound and convert said sound to electrically accessible information pertaining to said sound;
- g) electrically operable device to convert electrically accessible sound information to sound
- h) electrically operable device to receive and/or send information using radiofrequency;
- i) electrically operable device to receive and/or send information using infrared;
- j) electrically operable device to send and/or receive information using visible light;
- k) electrically operable device to send and/or receive information using electromagnetic radiation;
- l) electrically operable device to acquire pressure information;
- m) electrically operable device to acquire movement information, said movement pertaining to one at least objects and/or persons.

[Claim 57] A first sock ID device for use with a first sock in a pair of socks and a second sock ID device for use with a second sock in said pair of socks, wherein:-

- a) said first sock ID device comprises first information and
 - b) said second sock ID comprises second information,
- and
said first and second information is different.

[Claim 58] The sock ID devices of Claim 57, wherein said first information includes digital content stored in a first electrically readable device and said second information includes digital content stored in a second electrically readable device and said first and second digital content is different.

[Claim 59] The sock ID devices of Claim 57, wherein said first information includes a first group comprising one at least indicia and said second information includes a second group comprising one at least indicia, and one at least indicia in said first group is different to one at least indicia in said second group.

[Claim 60] The indicia of Claim 59, wherein said difference is one at least of colour, size, shape.

[Claim 61] An electrically operable device that acquires information pertaining to the physiological status of one at least persons.

[Claim 62] The electrically operable device of Claim 61, wherein, said acquisition includes digital sound information pertaining to a physiological function.

[Claim 63] The device of Claim 62, wherein said sound information pertains to breathing.

[Claim 64] The device of Claim 62, wherein said sound pertains to movement of a person.

[Claim 65] The device of Claim 62, wherein said sound pertains to voice.

[Claim 66] The electrically operable device of Claim 61, wherein, said acquisition includes digital image information pertaining to a physiological function.

[Claim 67] The device of Claim 66, wherein said image pertains to movement of a person.

[Claim 68] The electrically operable device of Claim 61, wherein, said acquisition includes digital pressure information pertaining to a physiological function.

[Claim 69] The device of Claim 68, wherein said pressure pertains to pressure variations caused by inspiration and expiration.

[Claim 70] The electrically operable device of Claim 61, wherein, said acquisition includes digital movement information pertaining to a physiological function.

[Claim 71] The electrically operable device of Claim 61, wherein, said acquisition includes digital information pertaining to an electrical signal produced by said person.

[Claim 72] Computer readable media coupled to the electrically operable device of one at least of claims 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71.

[Claim 73] Digital information content stored in the computer readable media of Claim 72.

[Claim 74] The digital content of Claim 73, wherein said content pertains to one at least physiological parameter.

[Claim 75] The digital content of Claim 74, wherein said parameters are predetermined and/or user programmable.

[Claim 76] The digital content of Claim 74, 75, wherein said digital content includes a computer program that processes:-

- a) acquired information pertaining to physiological status
and
- b) part at least of said stored parameters;

and said processing causes one at least events to take place as a result of said processing.

[Claim 77] The information of one at least of Claims 71 through 76, wherein said information facilitates the change in status of one at least lights.

[Claim 78] The light of Claim 77, wherein said light is a child's night light.

[Claim 79] The night light of Claim 78, wherein said night light comprises at least one electrically illuminable device coupled to an item of Manchester.

[Claim 80] The night light of Claim 78, wherein said night light comprises at least one electrically illuminable device coupled to a nightwear garment.

[Claim 81] . The change in status of one at least of Claims 77, 88, 79, 80, wherein said change includes one at least of:-

- a) light changes from off to on,
- b) light changes from on to off,
- c) light changes from a first intensity to a second intensity,
- d) light changes from a first color to a second color,
- e) light changes from a first flash rate to a second flash rate.

[Claim 82] The information of one at least of Claims 61 through 76, wherein said information facilitates the change in status of at least one electrically operable sound generating device.

[Claim 83] . The sound of Claim 82, wherein said sound is an audible alarm.

[Claim 84] The sound of Claim 82, wherein said sound is music.

[Claim 85] A portable electrically operable device that includes at least one electrically operable input device for user provided information, wherein the function of said input device is user programmable.

[Claim 86] The device of Claim 85, wherein, said user is able to program the characters and/or symbols and/or graphics used when displaying one at least menus on one at least electrically operable displays.

[Claim 87] The device of Claim 85, wherein said user is able to program one at least commands and/or sequence of commands activated by user interaction with information provided on an electrically operable display.

[Claim 88] The device of Claim 85, wherein said user is able to program the sequence of menu items presented as a result of user input.

[Claim 89] The device of Claim 85, wherein said user is able to program one at least words and/or phrases to be used as input for voice commands.

[Claim 90] The device of Claim 85, wherein said user is able to program one at least commands caused by one at least words and/or phrases entered as voice commands.

[Claim 91] The device of one at least of Claims 85 through 90, wherein information is programmable pertaining to at least two persons and said information for a first person is different to that for a second person.

[Claim 92] The device of Claim 91, wherein the input device is selectable to respond to said first person at a first instant and said second person at a second instant.

[Claim 93] . The device of one at least of Claims 85 through 92, wherein said device comprises one at least of:- a) mobile phone; b) electrically operable device pertaining to the use of keys and/or locks; c) electrically operable device pertaining to the sorting and/or mating of socks; d) electrically operable device pertaining to the operation of an electrically operable garment closure; e) electrically operable watch.

[Claim 94] The device of one at least of Claims 85 through 93, wherein said programming is facilitated by a computer program on computer readable media attached to said device.

[Claim 95] The device of one at least of Claims 85 through 93, wherein said programming is facilitated by a computer program on computer readable media coupled to a computer discrete to said device.

[Claim 96] The computer of Claim 95, wherein said computer is coupled to the internet.

[Claim 97] The computer of Claim 96, wherein said computer is remote to said device.

[Claim 98] An electrically operable device to monitor the contents of one at least items stored in a luggage device.